

For some years temperance principles have been making way in the European portion of the East India Company's Troops, and the following fact related by Major General Sir Hugh Gough, in a recent dispatch, is a remarkable instance of the progress which has been made.

"Having now conveyed my approval of the conduct of the commanding officers of brigades and corps, and the heads of departments, permit me to draw your Lordship's special attention to the praiseworthy conduct of the sailors and soldiers under my command, which in my mind does them the highest credit. During the eight days this force was on shore, (and many of the corps were unavoidably placed in situations where sham-shu was abundant,) but two instances of drunkenness occurred; and I deem it but justice here to mention a strong fact. The soldiers of the 49th finding a quantity of sham-shu in the village they had so gallantly taken, without order or previous knowledge of their officers, brought the jars containing the pernicious liquor, and broke them in front of their corps without the occurrence of a single case of intoxication."

At Chels-a, on Friday, a number of addresses were presented to Father Mathew, and among them was one worthy of note. It was from several territorial soldiers, belonging to the Grenadier and Scotch Fusilier Guards. In speaking of one of the great blessings of temperance, the address said, "We, as soldiers in Her Majesty's service, together with thousands of others who never bent the knee at the sanctuary of God, have been brought to do so, and are now rejoicing in the prospect of being happy eternally."

Temperance in the Navy.

Of the 213 men on board the United States sloop Boston, which arrived at Boston after a voyage round the world, only 72 drew their grog.

There are, at this moment, 1000 vessels ploughing the sea without the use of ardent spirits.

Concluding Remarks.

Seeing that there exists a fearful amount of evil in the world, *attributable to the use of intoxicating drinks*, and at the same time that we possess a safe and most certain remedy for this evil. Seeing that the disease of drunkenness is committing its ravages in every part of the world, and that we have in our own hands a *specific* for this disease. Is it possible that we can hold back? Is it possible that we cannot bring ourselves to the paltry sacrifice of our glass or two of wine to save our fellow-creatures from destruction? Is it possible that as men we can see our brother offend so *fearfully*, and not endeavour to remove the stumbling block in his way. Is it possible that we can look coldly, nay scornfully perhaps on those philanthropic and Christian few who have entered into an agreement that they will put from them *altogether*, what they find is attended with such ruinous consequences to millions of their fellow creatures, of every age and sex. Alas said a celebrated speaker!—"I fear it is possible—and that the efforts made by temperance societies for the reformation of drunkards do not meet with the support to be expected from Christians in general. True that in the ranks of this good cause many distinguished names are to be found, true that from the princely tables of not a few of England's nobility the incriating cup has been removed, true that this courtly hall brilliant in all that magnificence and taste can devise, with music's enchanting voice to heighten every enjoyment, and above all the charm of woman's presence to soften the heart, and elevate the mind,—the festive scene now before me, owes none of its joyous mirth, and unaffected happiness to the artificial stimulus of the wine cup. For its noble master has banished it for ever from his board, true that such are cheering instances but these bright examples are too rarely followed as yet, the moral courage necessary thus to stem the current of public opinion is still wanting in too many, and the degrading idea that the wine cup is essential to an evening's enjoyment is still too prevalent a delusion, to content the *thinking Christian* with the progress of the cause, who can see nothing in that cup, but crime and misery. Efforts are making however by those comparatively few, and these efforts, under the Almighty's blessing are working a moral reformation in the world."

But where is this reformation most needed—I grieve to say in the *Army and Navy of Great Britain*. The British soldier and sailor in times of peace such as these for instance, is well lodged, clothed, and fed, carefully and skillfully treated when sick, without a want to harass his mind, with no more work than is desirable, nay necessary for him, supplied with religious instruction, and

under the most careful restraints. Yet from the *one cause*—from *drunkenness alone*. He is *physically, morally, and intellectually* below the standard of his class, and the victim of every species of disease that can possibly arise from intemperate habits.

Here is no light matter for our consideration, brilliant though our career has hitherto been, and invincible our armies, and exalted though our position is at this moment in the scale of nations, there is *that within us*, I fear, *insidious but sure* working our destruction. The rise and fall of nations after nations is recorded on the page of History for our instruction; their early career is one of triumph, but sunk at length in dissipation and vice, what has their later history been! *A downward, downward, course, and a termination*, that awaits us I dread, if as a nation we allow our health and strength, our *morals*, our *morality*, our *religion*, and our *national character* to be swept away by the tide of drunkenness, and our country's barracks, its brave soldiers and sailors to be deteriorated in character, and lost by thousands in the same restless sea—restless, did I say? Oh! no. The remedy is in our hands—if we are men then, if we are patriots we will use it, we will do our part in the work of religion. To save our country, to uphold our national character, to preserve our religion, to maintain our station among the kingdoms of the world, let us make then the *small but amply sufficient* sacrifice demanded of us. Let us empty our guard-rooms, shut up our cells, saw our triangles into firewood, burn our defaulters' books close nearly all the wards of our hospitals, and marshal our brigades before earth's nations, a second realization of the early conquerors of the world, and pointing to their health stamped features, their firm, unflinching eye and sinewy limbs, ask them, where is the fear of *Ban's* downfall when she can boast of such as these? Let us do this, ay, and more than this, for we can do it by *flinging for ever the wine-cup from our lips*. *This, simply this, I repeat will do it all.*

"I will be well then if we can see that for our own sakes, for the sake of our fellow creatures generally, and for the sake of our country, we should enroll our names in the cause of temperance. But let us lose no time, for every day is of consequence in this great work. Every day alas! is hurrying hundreds of unfortunate drunkards out of the world, every day sees more victims preparing, some who have just stepped out of the path of sobriety, some who are more advanced on the road to destruction, some wretched beings who are beginning to look forward with alarm at the influence this poison has already over them, trembling too lest the world should see it, but who have no power to restrain themselves, some who once respectable and honored, are now sacrificing fortune, station, character, affection, and every other natural tie to their devouring appetites. At this fearful stage we every day see the parent sacrificing his children, the husband his wife, the impassioned lover his mistress, the man of science his profession, the patriot his country, *all, all* for the one loathsome gratification.

But it must not be—*sold'ers of a Christian nation*, you who have gained for your country her imperishable laurels, you who have never dreaded a foe—you are called upon by everything that is sacred and dear to you, to assist in putting down the *deadliest enemy you or your country ever had*. Up then and be doing, and stay not your hand till you have *crushed him under your feet*. You will then be conquerors indeed, and the laurels you will gain in such a contest will be imperishable indeed, for they *must, they will be a crown of blessing from God Himself*.

The End.

For the numerous extracts contained in these pages I am indebted to the following works:—*Antibacchus*, the Temperance Magazine for 1811, (British and Foreign,) Lectures on Total Abstinence delivered in Glasgow in 1811-2, by the Rev. Stewart Bates, D. D., the Rev. Alexander Lindsay, Lesmahagow, the Rev. James Banks, Paisley, the Rev. John Leuchman, Irvine, the Rev. John Kirk, Hamilton, the Rev. C. John Kennedy, Paisley, the Rev. George Thompson, Dumfries, the Rev. John Kennedy, Aberdeen, the Rev. Robert Forbes, Aberdeen, and the Rev. J. Simpson, Greenock. *Samson's* Temperance delivered in Glasgow 1810-1 by the Reverend Peter Brown, Wishawtown, the Rev. Andrew Gilmour, Greenock, the Rev. John Reid, Bathgate, the Rev. John W. Birlan Lanark, the Rev. James Banks, Paisley, and the Rev. John Ritchie, D. D. Edinburgh. The *Canada Temperance Advocate*, and various Medical and other authorities, all of whom I have to thank for their valuable information on the subject. But above all I have drawn largely from this inestimable source of wisdom and righteousness *The Holy Scriptures*.